

Virginia State Water Resources Plan and Water Supply Planning in the Roanoke River Basin

December 18, 2014



Presentation Road Map

Local/Regional
Water Supply
Plans

State Water
Resources Plan

Cumulative
Impact
Analysis

Roanoke River
Basin

Summary

Water Supply Planning in VA

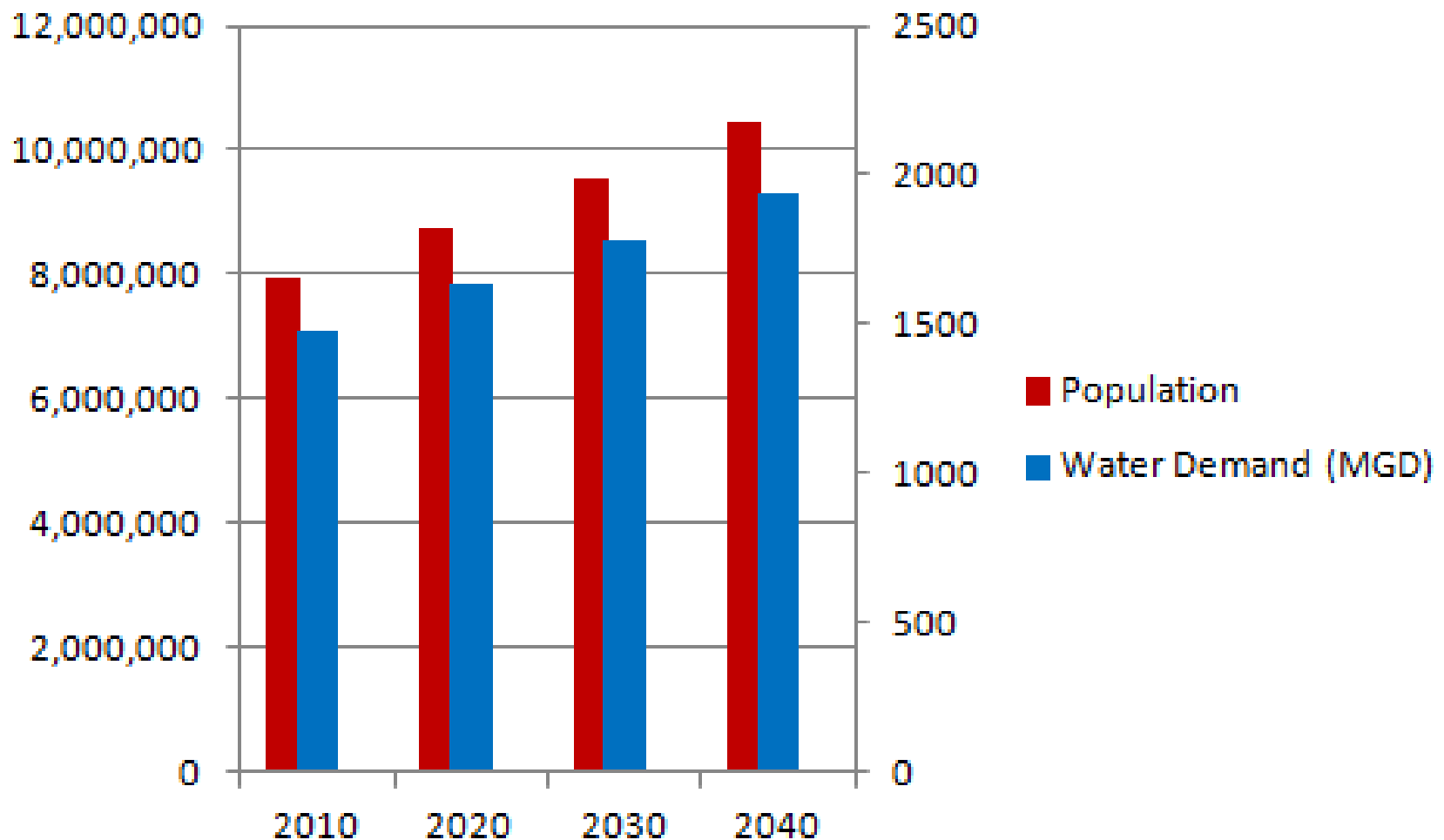
- Forty-eight water supply plans submitted
38 regional; 10 local
- All water supply plans found compliant,
with conditions
- All plans will be updated by 2018 and will
address conditions detailed in compliance
review

State Water Resources Plan

- First document of its kind in Virginia
- SWRP includes information from all water supply plans, as well as information from other sources
- 250,000 records entered in content management system for modeling

- For the first time, cumulative impacts of future water demands on water resources can be analyzed
- Outreach efforts will begin in areas where meeting future demand is likely to result in impacts to beneficial uses
- DEQ will provide feedback on SWRP findings to regions and localities

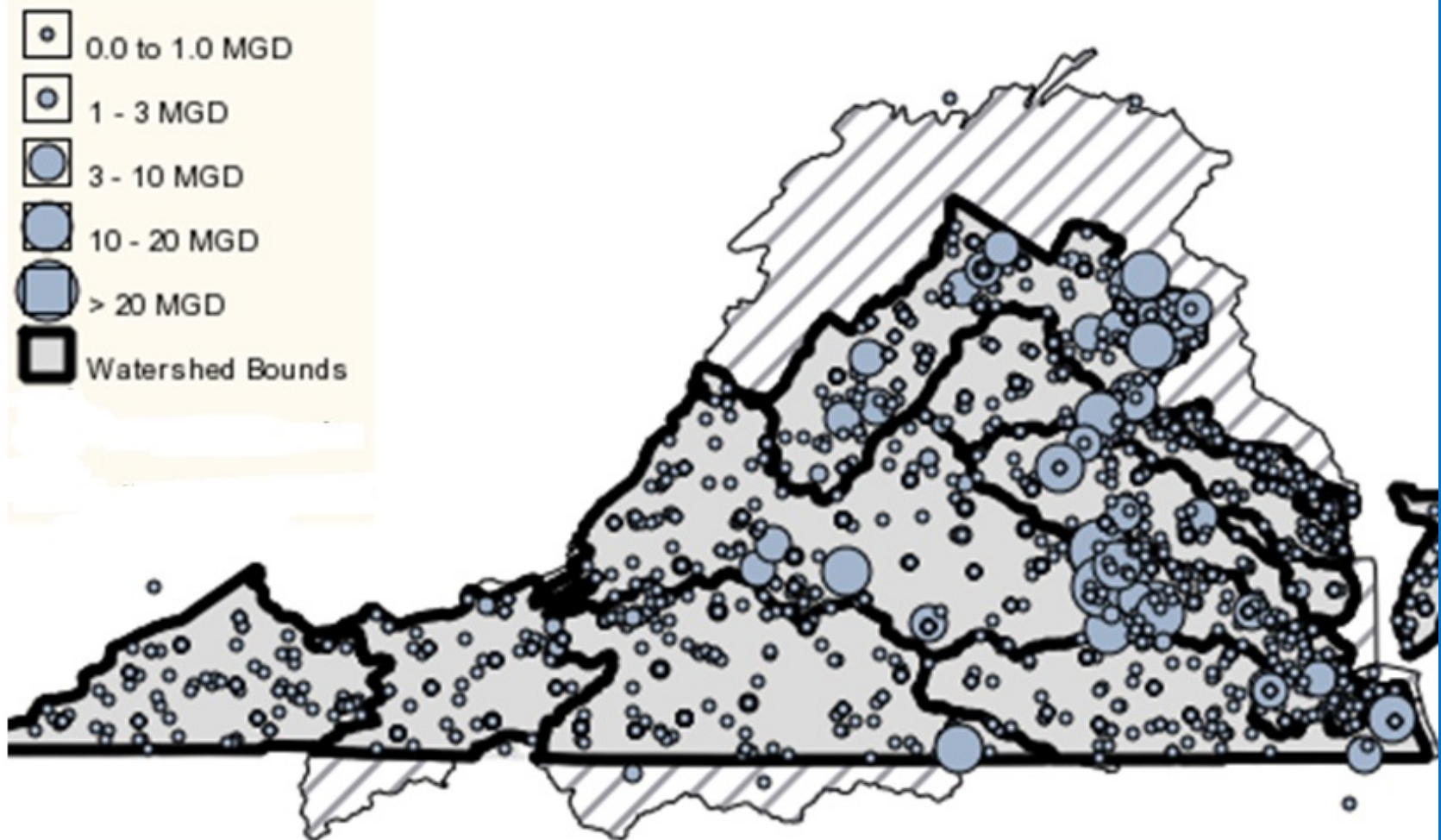
Virginia Population and Water Demand Trends



What the SWRP Tells Us

- Approximately 450 MGD needed by 2040
- 32% increase in water demand consistent with anticipated increase in population
- Plans predict that approximately 77% of total water demand will be from surface water
- Concentration of Demands: 97% of surface water withdrawals are predicted to occur in 25% of stream reaches

VA Spatial Trends in 2040 Demand



Surface Water Withdrawals

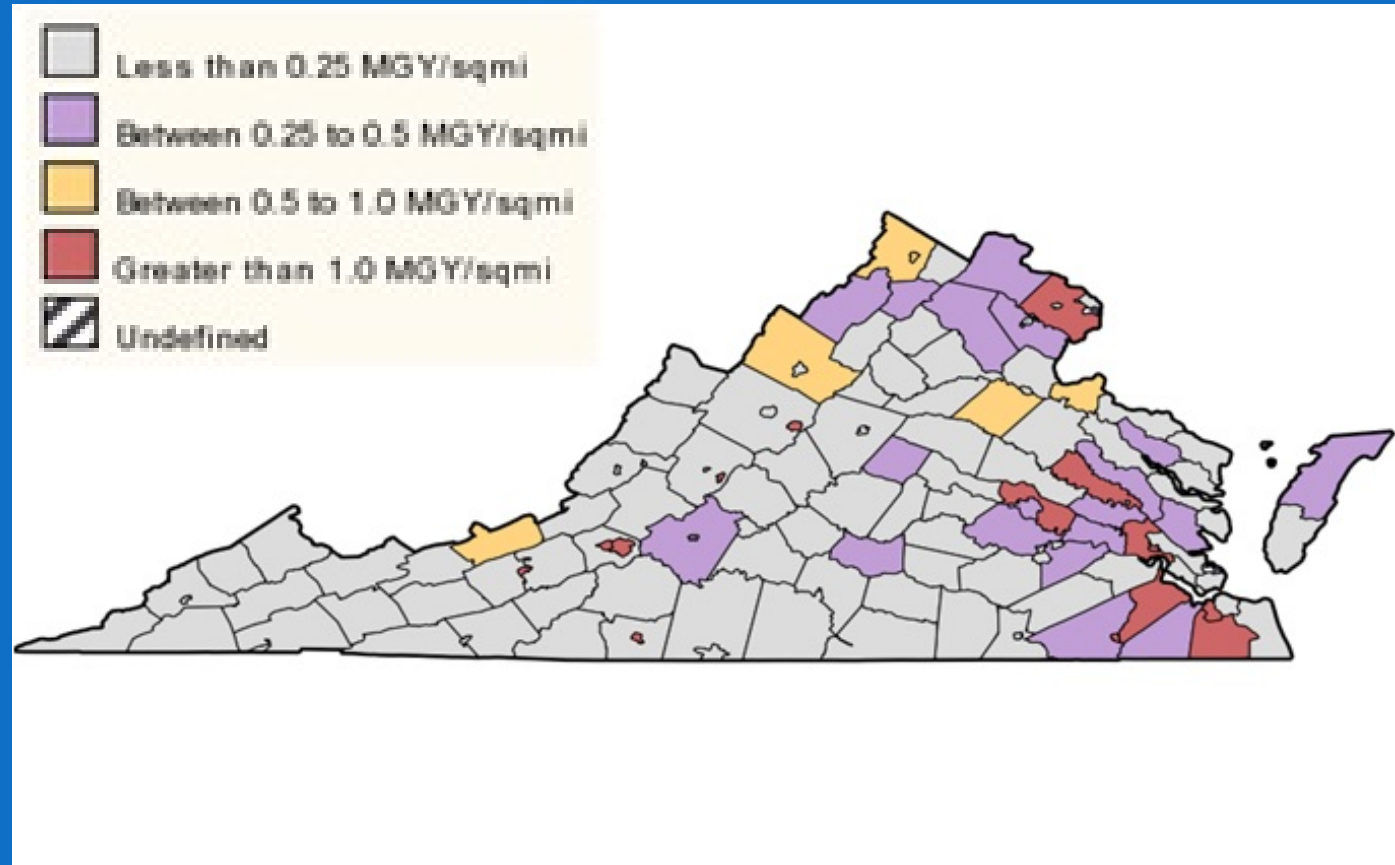


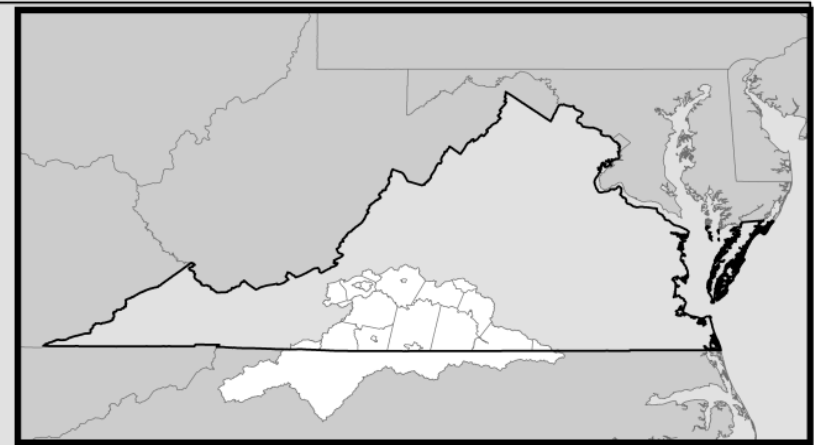
Impacts of Projected Demands

- Higher demands = lower drought flows
 - Demands are concentrated
 - Negative impacts on in-stream beneficial uses, particularly during low flows
- Unregulated withdrawals have potential impacts
 - 82% of surface water withdrawn unregulated
- Water is available, but not without accepting risks

Groundwater Withdrawals

- 23% of total water demand is expected to come from GW
- 75% of GW demand outside established GWMA





Roanoke River Basin



Roanoke River Basin

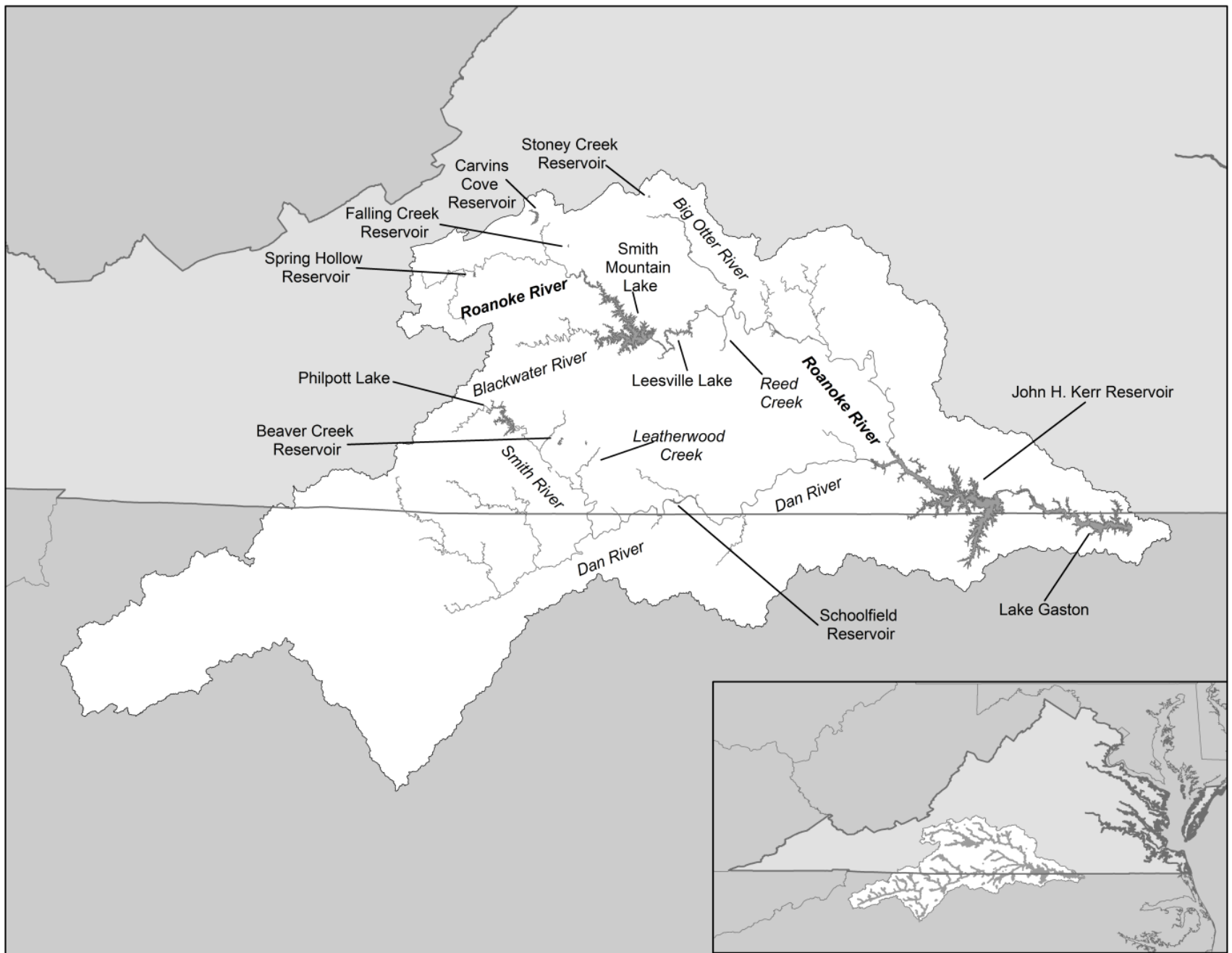
- Covers approximately 15% of Virginia's total area
- Existing surface water sources – large reservoirs

Kerr Reservoir (Buggs Island Lake)

Lake Gaston

Leesville Lake

Smith Mountain Lake



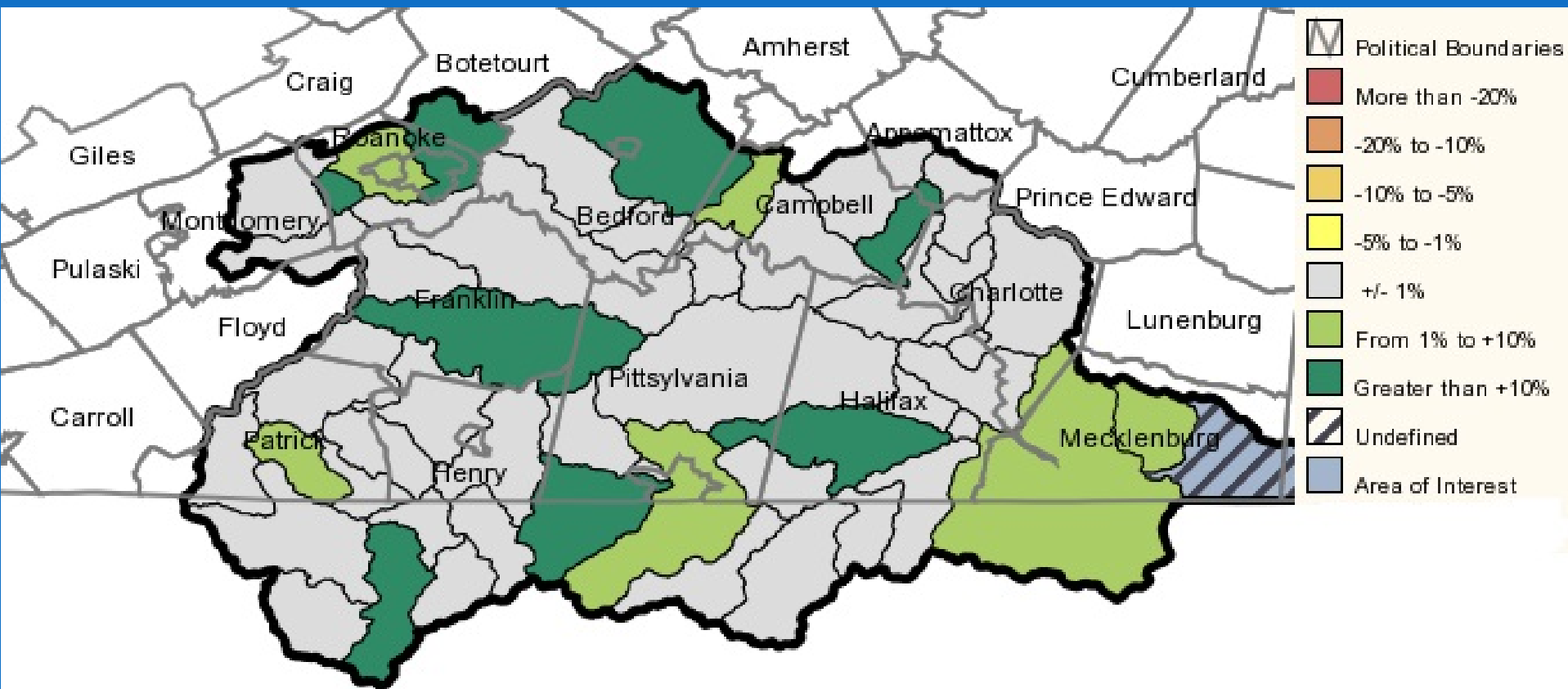
Roanoke River Basin

- Most community water systems in the basin rely on groundwater as their source
- Approximately 39% of people in the basin use private groundwater wells for residential water supply

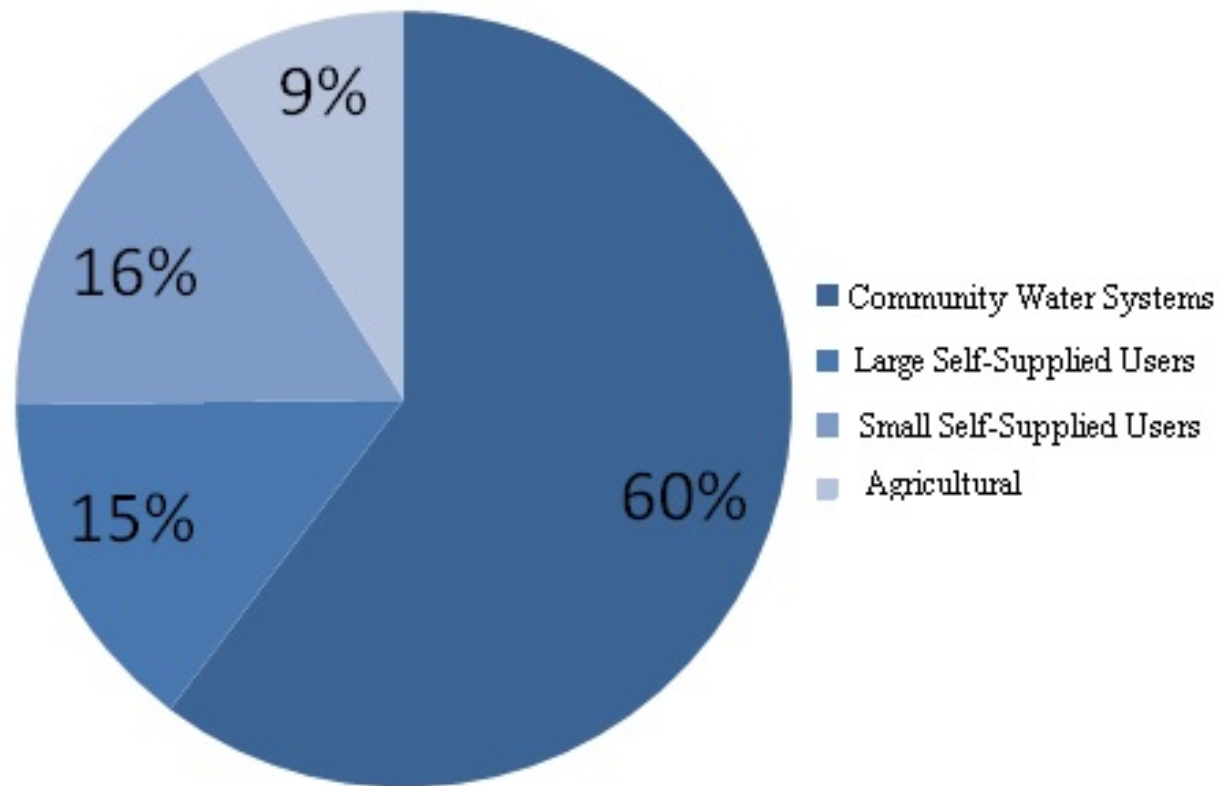
Projected Demand in the Virginia Portion of the Roanoke River Basin 2010 to 2040

- Population = 14% increase
- Projected water demand = 24% increase
- Groundwater use = 33% increase
- Surface water use = 11% increase

Changes in Local Withdrawal 2010 to 2040

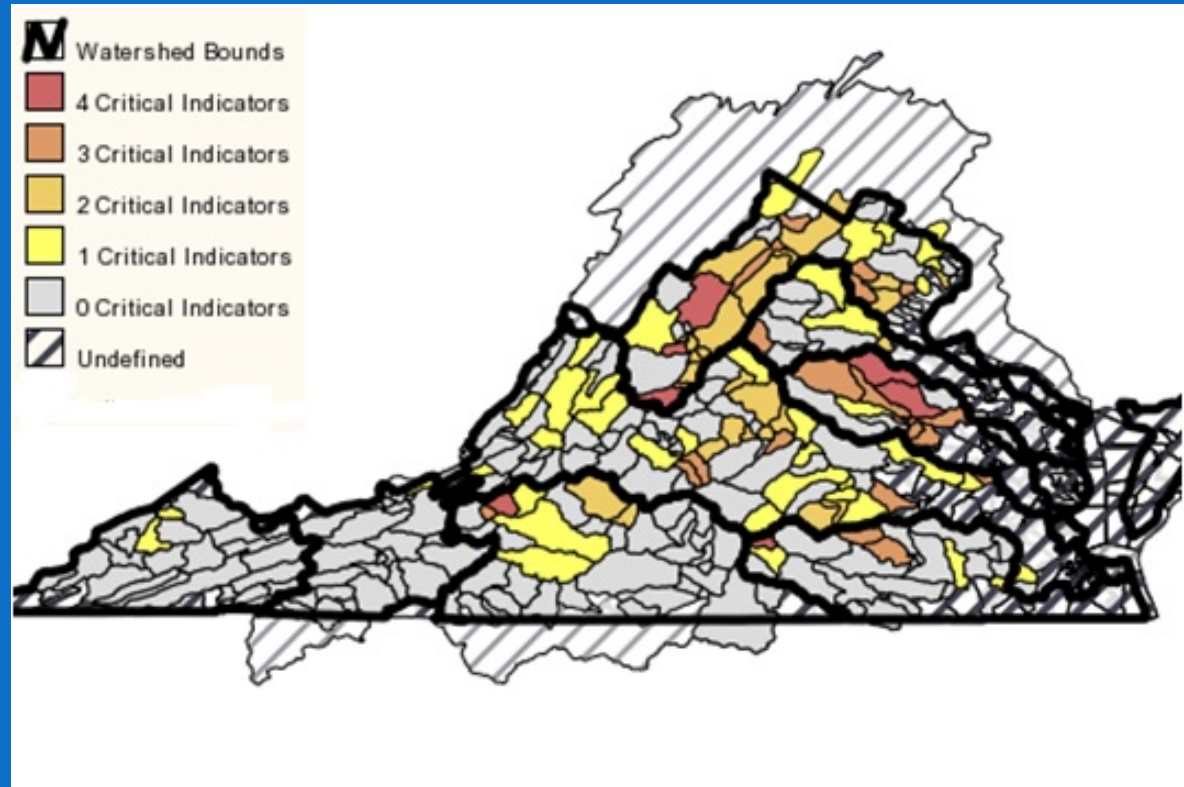


Roanoke River Basin: 2040 Projected Demand by User Type



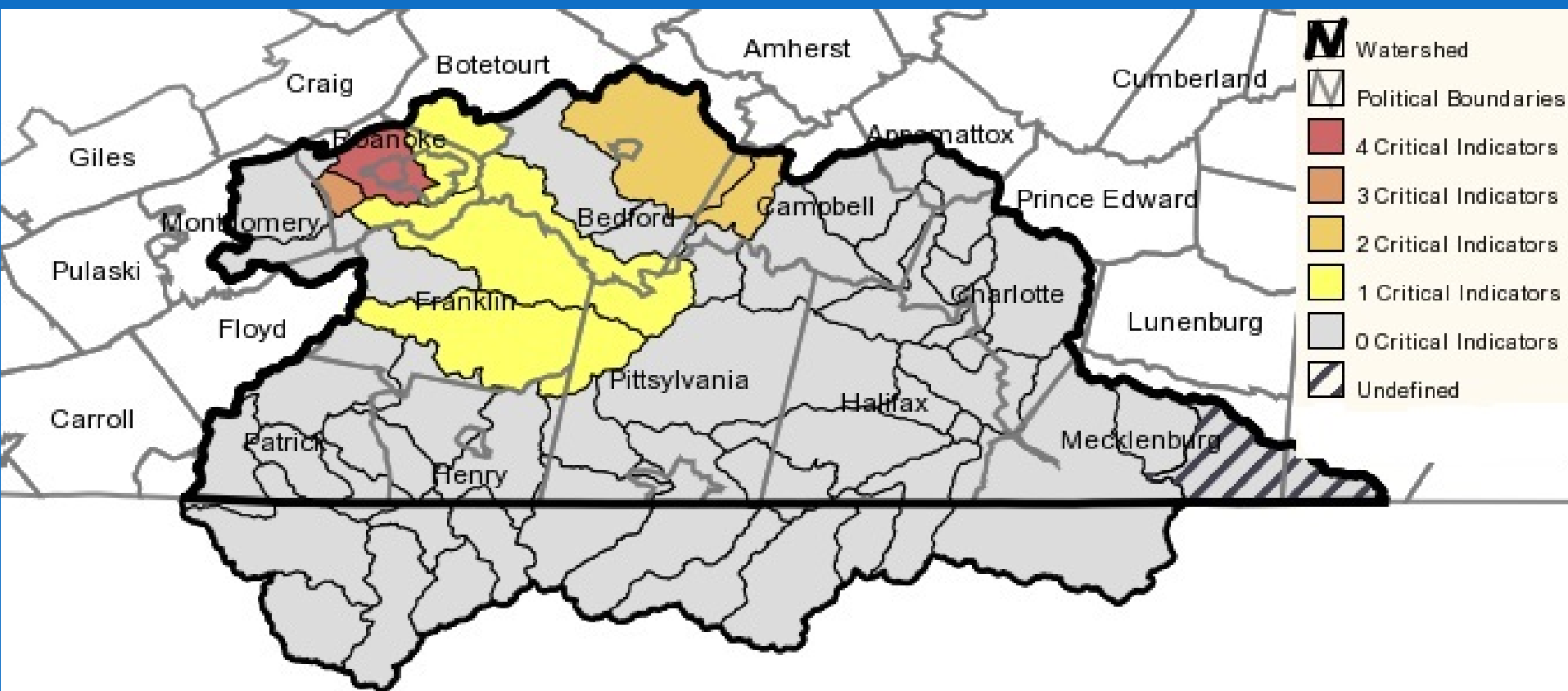
Cumulative Impact Analysis

- Four Metrics:
 - August Low Flow
 - 7Q₁₀
 - Change in Drought of Record Flow
 - Withdrawal as Percentage of September Drought Warning – Overall System Stress



Stream reach considered at risk based on exceedance of screening thresholds

Roanoke River Basin Cumulative Impact Analysis

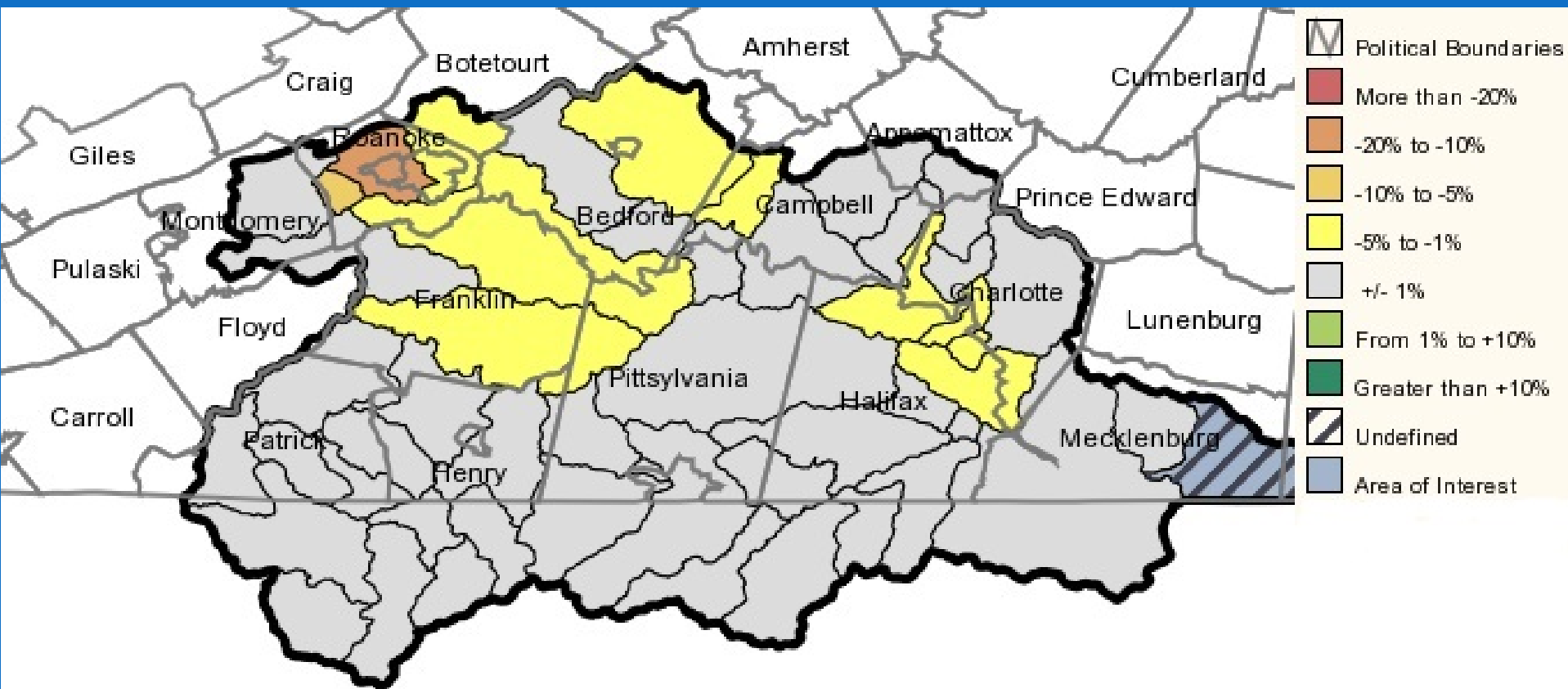


August Low Flow

- Decreasing flows may result in negative impacts to aquatic life
- Greater than 10% reduction considered to be high risk

Roanoke River Basin

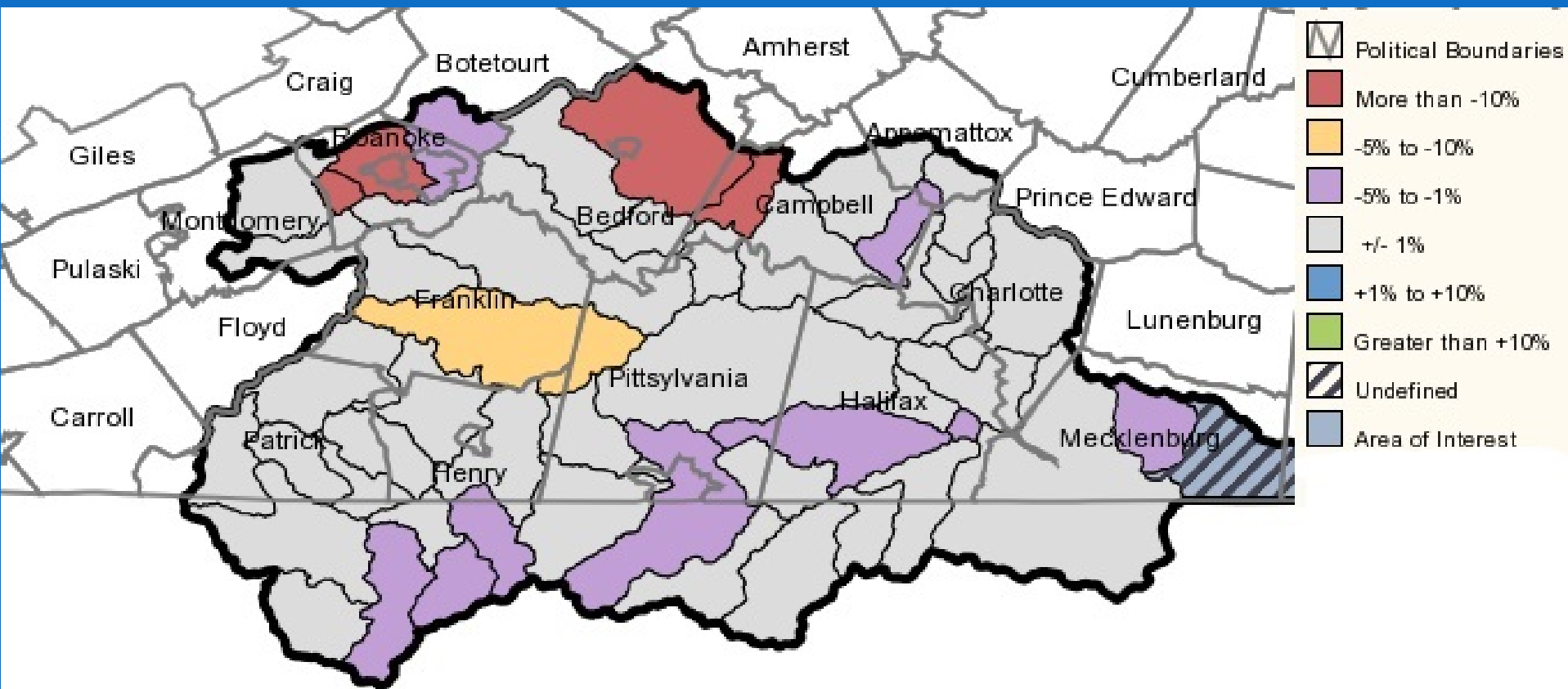
August Low Flow



7Q10

- Decreases in 7Q10 flows reduce the estimated waste assimilative capacity as well as flows for off-stream uses

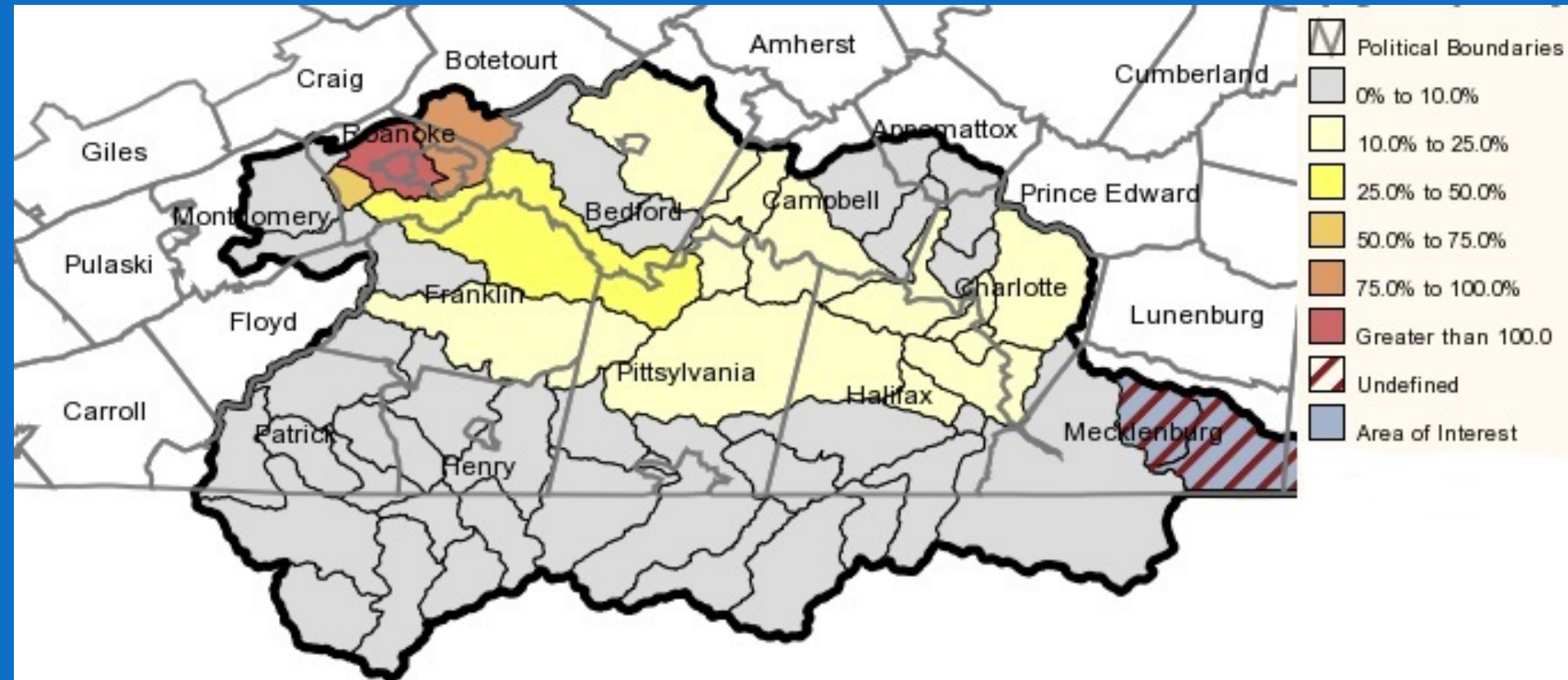
Roanoke River Basin: 7Q10



Current Withdrawal as Percentage of September Drought Warning Flow

- Indicator of cumulative water supply system stress, resulting in either downstream flow reductions, reservoir storage depletions, or increased conservation restrictions on off-stream demands
- Greater than 25% considered to be high risk

Current WD as % of September Drought Warning Flow

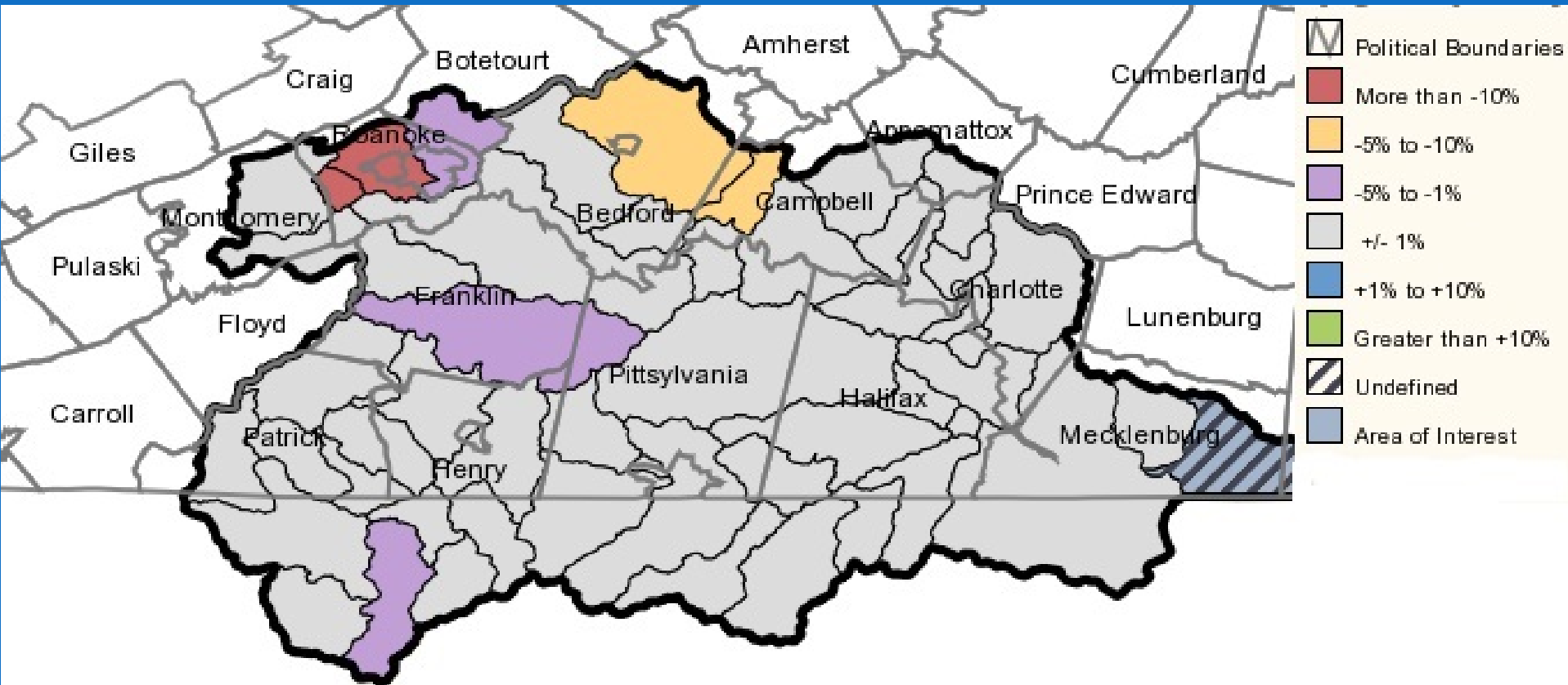


Drought of Record

- These flows are the ultimate limiting factor in safe yield
- Greater than 5% reduction considered to be high risk

Roanoke River Basin

Drought of Record





Roanoke River Basin: Deficits and Alternatives by Water Supply Planning Region

Charlotte County Regional WSP

- Deficits anticipated in towns of Drakes Branch, Phenix, Charlotte Court House, and Keyville
- Alternatives considered include Clarification of safe yield for Keyville Reservoir, additional groundwater supplies, development of a water treatment plant at Drakes Branch Lake, and system interconnections

Halifax County Regional WSP

- Halifax County Service Authority anticipates reaching 80% VDH permitted capacity around 2035
- To address deficit, increase in the permitted withdrawal on the Dan River

Region 2000 WSP

- Deficits expected for Bedford Regional Water Authority, Campbell County Utility and Service Authority, Towns of Altavista and Appomattox

Alternatives Considered to Meet Demand for Region 2000

- Lakes Regional Water Treatment Plant on Smith Mountain Lake
- Increased purchase from Lynchburg (BRWA)
- Boxley Rock Quarry
- Intake on Roanoke River, water agreements with Lynchburg City or Bedford County (CCUSA)
- Additional groundwater sources, reservoirs, intakes, inter-connections, reuse and recycling, and demand management

Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission

- Deficits expected for Botetourt, Franklin, City of Salem, and Towns of Boones Mill and Troutville

Alternatives Considered to Meet Demand for RVARC

- Expansion of the Smith Mountain Lake Regional Water Treatment Plan in Bedford County
- New intake on Smith Mountain Lake to supplement Western Virginia Water Authority's (WVWA) Carvins Cove reservoir system
- Development of new groundwater sources is also mentioned by some of the localities with predicted water supply deficits

West Piedmont Regional WSP

- Deficits expected for Henry County and the Town of Gretna
- Alternatives considered to meet demand include increased withdrawal from the Upper Smith River (HC) and raw water intake on Whitethorn Creek and a pipeline to Georges Creek Reservoir (Gretna)

WSP: Existing Sources Expected to Meet Demand

- Lake Country Regional WSP
- New River Valley WSP
- Southwest Virginia Regional WSP

Summary for the Roanoke River Basin

- Population expected to increase 14.3%
- Projected water demand is estimated to increase 23.5% from 2010 to 2040
- Majority of population growth likely to occur outside community water system service areas

Questions?

